



**THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicants:** Satoshi Otsuka, et al.

**Examiner:** Unassigned

**Serial No:** 10/758,646

**Art Unit:** Unassigned

**Filed:** January 14, 2004

**Docket:** 17364

**For:** MEDICAL INSTRUMENT  
HOLDING DEVICE

**Dated:** May 10, 2004

**Conf. No.:** 6274

Mail Stop Missing Parts  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following reference, which is also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

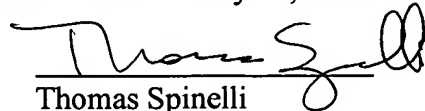
1. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 6-113997, dated April 26, 1994;
2. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 8-52158, dated February 27, 1996;

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 10, 2004.

Dated: May 10, 2004

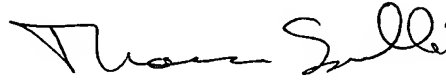
  
Thomas Spinelli

3. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2001-258903, dated September 25, 2001;
4. International PCT Patent Publication No. WO 95/10985, dated April 27, 1995;
5. United States Patent No. 4,863,133, issued to Bonnell, dated September 5, 1989;
6. United States Patent No. 5,170,790, issued to Lacoste et al., dated December 15, 1992;
7. United States Patent No. 5,609,565, issued to Nakamura, dated March 11, 1997;
8. United States Patent No. 5,697,939, issued to Kubota et al., dated December 16, 1997;
9. United States Patent No. 5,918,844, issued to Ognier, dated July 6, 1999; and
10. United States Patent No. 6,514,239 B2, issued to Shimmura et al., dated February 4, 2003.

Applicants are submitting copies of references 1-4. In accordance with the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (a)(2)(i), per 1276 OG 55, August 5, 2003, applicants are not required to submit copies of the above-cited U.S. Patent references. The relevance of references 1-6 has been described in the specification.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

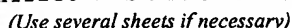
Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas Spinelli". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Thomas" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Spinelli".

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17364

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Satoshi Otsuka et al.

**January 14, 2004**

## Unassigned